

State Board Retreat/Work Session – December 7, 2012

The State Board of Education/State Board for Vocational Education held a retreat work session on Friday, December 7, 2012 in the Parkview Room at the Inn at Canal Square in Lewes, Delaware. The work session began at 8:30 a.m. with the following Board members present: Dr. Teri Quinn Gray, President; Jorge L. Melendez, Vice President; Gregory B. Coverdale, Jr., G. Patrick Heffernan, Randall L. Hughes, II, and Dr. Terry M. Whittaker. Donna R. Johnson, State Board Executive Director, was also present.

Also joining the State Board was Catherine Hickey, Deputy Attorney General and legal counsel for the State Board of Education, Brad Hull Deputy Executive Director from the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) and Elizabeth Ross, Common Core Standards Project Manager from NASBE.

Dr. Gray provided an overview of the Board's agenda for the next two days and the work session began with Ms. Johnson providing a technology update on applications available to the State Board members on the iPads.

John Carwell, Director of the Charter School Office for the Department, provided an overview of the new application process and explained the improvements that have been made to the application. The Board had an in depth discussion on the development of new charter school performance agreement templates and guidance tools for schools in developing these agreements and their required annual report. The new Performance Agreement documents will be aligned to the requirements in Regulation 275 and able to be measured by the Charter Performance Framework. Chantel Janiszewski from the Charter School Office joined Mr. Carwell and the State Board for this discussion.

After lunch, Christopher Ruszkowski, TLEU Chief Officer, provided an update on the Delaware Performance Appraisal System. He also provided information on the Delaware Teacher Cooperative project, formerly called the Teacher Attraction and Retention Program. He delivered a memo from the Professional Standards Board regarding the suite of Administrator Certification regulations which are currently proposed for revision and requested additional questions on these regulations be submitted to the PSB prior to their action in January. Mr. Ruszkowski discussed the

involvement with the TLEU office regarding the development of 1595 and other administrative regulations over the past year.

The Board was provided with an in depth profile of Common Core initiatives in Delaware and information on the transition to the Smarter Balanced assessment. Dr. Shelley Rouser led the presentation and was joined by James Dick, Theresa Bennett, Rita Fry, Renee Parsley, and Carolyn Lazar. Ms. Ross provided the most recent information on Common Core on the national level.

The work session adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

State Board Retreat/Work Session – December 8, 2012

The State Board of Education/State Board for Vocational Education held a retreat work session on Saturday, December 8, 2012 in the Parkview Room at the Inn at Canal Square in Lewes, Delaware. The work session began at 8:31 a.m. with the following Board members present: Dr. Teri Quinn Gray, President; Jorge L. Melendez, Vice President; Gregory B. Coverdale, Jr., G. Patrick Heffernan, Randall L. Hughes, II, and Dr. Terry M. Whittaker. Donna R. Johnson, State Board Executive Director, was also present.

Also joining the State Board was Catherine Hickey, Deputy Attorney General and legal counsel for the State Board of Education, Brad Hull Deputy Executive Director from the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) and Elizabeth Ross, Common Core Standards Project Manager from NASBE.

Ms. Johnson presented the findings and recommendations of the NASBE Study Group for Educational Technology as they would pertain to Delaware policy. The report, *Born in Another Time*, was presented in a Congressional briefing earlier in the week.

Ms. Hickey presented proposed changes to the State Board agenda and its Procedures Manual. The changes to the agenda provide a better sense of timing of the items presented to the Board monthly.

The Board had a lengthy conversation with Secretary Murphy as he discussed initiatives in the Department as well as the Department's strategic plan and Delaware's Education Agenda.

After lunch, the State Board spent the rest of the afternoon updating its strategic plan and developing its priorities within the plan for the coming year. Mr. Hull provided guidance on how the Board could also perform a self-evaluation based on their accomplishments from the plan and adherence to their established priorities and mission.

The retreat adjourned at 3:00 p.m.